

Appl. No. : 09/309,366
Filed: : May 11, 1999

REMARKS

Prior to entry of this amendment, Claims 1, 4, 8-11, 19-24 and 26-32 were pending. By this amendment, Claim 20 has been cancelled. Thus, Claims 1, 4, 8-11, 19, 21-24 and 26-32 are currently pending in this application. In view of the above-noted claim cancellation, Applicant asserts that the pending claims are each in condition for allowance.

Discussion of Claim Rejection

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Schuler et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,855,005). By this paper, Claim 20 has been canceled. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

Discussion of Allowable Subject Matter.

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that Claims 1, 4, 8-11, 19, 21-24 and 26-32 are allowable. Applicant thanks the Examiner for this notice and requests that a Notice of Allowance for these claims is promptly issued.

Summary

Applicant has endeavored to address all of the Examiner's concerns as expressed in the outstanding Office Action. In view of the above, withdrawal of the outstanding rejection is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions which may be answered by telephone, he is invited to call the undersigned directly.

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Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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